(c) Hindi -21.012

English -31.504

Rock Garden in Karnataka

2399. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) The number of Rock Gardens for collecting marvelous rocks in the country for tourist attraction;

(b) whether Government have laid down certain guidelines for setting up such gardens in the country and financial assistance provided by Government therefor:

(c) whether Government of Karnataka has sought financial assistance for setting up a Rock Garden in the State as the rocks are available in the State abundantly; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI J AGMOHAN) : (a) Based on die information available with the Department of Tourism there is a Rock Garden which is on the Northern fringe Chandigarh city and adjacent to the Sukhna Lake, called Chandigarh's Rock Garden, an internationally famous creation.

(b) Development and promotion of tourist Centres/places including Rock Gardens is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned. The Central Department of Tourism provides funds on the basis of projects prioritised in consultation with them even' year. There is no separate guidelines to provide funds for Rock Gardens only.

(c) Such proposal for setting up a Rock Garden, where rocks are collected and displayed has not been submitted by the State Government of Karnataka.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of tourism spots in Andhra Pradesh

2400. DR Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sought the assistance of the Centre to play the role of a facilitator and supporter in promoting tourism in

the country . and

(b) if so. the measures taken to include special tourism areas identified by Andhra Pradesh for development through joint efforts and giving tourism an industry status ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) Development and promotion of tourist centres/places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations themselves. However, the Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to all the States/UT Administrations every year on the basis of projects prioritised in consultation with them. Accordingly Andhra Pradesh Government has been submitting proposals seeking financial assistance.

(b) No such proposal for inclusion of special tourism areas identified by Andhra Pradesh for development through joint efforts has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has declared "tourism" as an industry with effect from 27-11 -1986. The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned following funds for various projects to the Andhra Pradesh Government during the last three years:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Financial Assistance Provided
1998-99	10	244.08
1999-2000	14	222.22
2000-2001	7	141.00

Tourism projects of Bihar

† 2401. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the detairs of the tourism projects sent by the Government of Bihar for clearance of the Central Government during the last three years; and

(b) the reasons for non-clearance of these projects and by when, they are

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.